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SUBJECT: UN/IRAQ:GERMAN, FRENCH, AND RUSSIAN MARCH 15 JOINT
DECLARATION

CLASSIFIED BY: POLITICAL MINISTER COUNSELOR JOSIAH ROSENBLATT,
REASONS 1.5(B) AND (D).

[¶1.](#) (U) ON MARCH 15, GERMAN PERMREP PLEUGER CIRCULATED THE
FOLLOWING GERMAN, FRENCH, AND RUSSIAN JOINT DECLARATION ON
IRAQ AS AN ANNEX TO A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL.

[¶2.](#) (U) BEGIN TEXT OF GERMAN, FRENCH, AND RUSSIAN JOINT
DECLARATION.

-- THE SHARED GOAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS THE
DISARMAMENT OF IRAQ PURSUANT TO THE DECISIONS OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1441
(2002), ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, PROVIDES FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED
INSPECTIONS REGIME.

-- WE REAFFIRM THAT NOTHING IN THE CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES
JUSTIFIES ABANDONING THE INSPECTIONS PROCESS OR RESORTING TO
FORCE.

-- THE SUCCESSIVE REPORTS OF MR. HANS BLIX AND MR. MOHAMED
ELBARADEI HAVE SHOWN THAT THE INSPECTIONS ARE PRODUCING
RESULTS. THE DISARMAMENT OF IRAQ HAS BEGUN, AND THERE IS
EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE COMPLETED RAPIDLY AND
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES SET OUT BY THE COUNCIL. IRAQ,
FOR ITS PART, MUST COOPERATE ACTIVELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

-- FRANCE, GERMANY AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SUPPORTED BY
CHINA, HAVE SUBMITTED PROPOSALS FOR ACHIEVING THAT OBJECTIVE
BY DEFINING KEY DISARMAMENT TASKS AND ESTABLISHING A RIGOROUS
TIMETABLE.

-- SUGGESTIONS IN THE SAME SPIRIT HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD BY
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. THE UNITY OF THE COUNCIL CAN
BE PRESERVED ON THE BASIS OF THESE EFFORTS, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION 1441 (2002).
ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL BEAR A PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY
FOR ENSURING THAT IT IS NOT DIVIDED AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME.

-- THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS MONITORING,
VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION COMMISSION (UNMOVIC) IS TO BE
SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL ON TUESDAY. WE PROPOSE THAT THE
COUNCIL SHOULD THEN MEET AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TO APPROVE
KEY DISARMAMENT TASKS AND ESTABLISH AN IMPLEMENTATION
TIMETABLE WHICH IS BOTH DEMANDING AND REALISTIC.

-- THE USE OF FORCE CAN BE ONLY A LAST RESORT. A PEACEFUL
APPROACH IS PREFERRED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND SUPPORTED
BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY; WE
SOLEMNLY APPEAL TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT SUCH AN APPROVAL PREVAILS.

END TEXT

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